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Advisory Neighborhood Commissioner 2A07
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District of Columbia Inspector General
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Mr. Willoughby,

Recently brought to my attention is that School Without Walls Principal Richard Trogisch is hiring his wife as his Assistant Principal. It raises great concern about the legality of this hire considering that D.C. law prohibits a school employee from hiring, promoting or advocating for the hiring or promotion of a family member to any position in the school system.

Cindy Trogisch, a teacher at Hardy Middle School and spouse of School Without Walls Principal Richard Trogisch, did identify herself as the incoming Assistant Principal at the new School Without Walls at Francis-Stevens at the February 23rd Francis-Stevens PTA Meeting. This came to the surprise of everyone. There is further evidence that this has not been misconstrued, because she introduced a teaching candidate for the upcoming school year and told Francis-Stevens teachers to send their resumes to her or her husband since they have been told they must reapply for their jobs. Although Mr. Trogisch has affirmed that he does not intend to fill the position before May, he did defend himself saying that John Davis, DCPS Chief of Schools gave him permission to hire his wife. Something else to note is that Mrs. Trogisch's daughter arrived at the PTA Meeting and said that she was considering taking a job there as well.

The thought that a school administrator would hire his wife for such as high leadership role or that his superior would condone this hire; it is viewed as a breach of judgment and should incite further examination. To bring closure to this matter, I would like to request that you conclude a full review in the next 72 hours.

Regards,

Jackson Carnes